

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF CITY
THE THEME OF DISCUSSION.

No Money on Hand to Pay for Fire Department Building and If the Dispensary is Voted Out Thereby Reducing City's Income by \$25,000 the Sewerage Bonds Must be Issued—Policeman Weeks Put on Retired List—City Books to be Audited by Expert Accountant.

A regular meeting of City Council was held in the council chamber at 8 p. m. Tuesday, with all members present save Alderman H. C. Haynsworth.

The report of Mr. Barnett, Chairman of the Finance Committee, showing that the ordinary city expenses for the fiscal year, March 31st, 1908—March 31st, 1909, exceeded by \$10,000 the expenditures of the previous year, and the treasurer's annual report giving receipts and expenditures in detail, furnished the text for a serious discussion of the financial condition of the city; and the necessity of economy and careful management was stressed by every member who took part in the discussion. In fact, no matter what subject came up for discussion during the course of the meeting the city's finances and the probable effect of the abolition of the dispensary were alluded to. There was no difference of opinion expressed. All agreed that the city can worry along and continue spending money, as has been done during the past year, and break even, but if the dispensary is voted out, there will have to be curtailment all along the line and in all departments; and in addition to the unwelcome practice of economy the issue of the sewerage bonds will be inevitable, for otherwise there will be no source from which the money to repay the bonds can be raised. It is dispensary or bond issue for Sumter, according to the views expressed by members of council last night.

In connection with the financial condition of the city the building of fire department headquarters was discussed. Mr. R. F. Haynsworth, chairman of the Building Committee, stating that after looking into the financial status of the city the committee had decided to hold the matter in abeyance and no steps had been taken to put into effect the resolution adopted at the last meeting directing the erection of the building. The discussion was general and protracted and for a time there was a disposition on the part of a majority to do nothing. Mr. Stubbs made a motion to go ahead and build a house for the firemen at once, and sell the sewerage bonds to get the money to pay for it, and repay the banks and use the balance if any on the streets.

The disposition finally made of the matter is shown in the detailed report of the meeting.

The electric lighting contract was discussed but action was deferred. Mr. R. F. Haynsworth advocated a fuller investigation of the feasibility of establishing a plant in connection with the waterworks for furnishing street lights solely. He was of the opinion, from information furnished by Prof. Riggs, when he made a report on the lighting system of the city a few years ago, that a plant to light the streets could be installed for \$6,000 to \$8,000 and that it would pay for itself within a few years.

Another matter of interest was the introduction of a resolution by Mr. Ligon providing for the employment of an expert accountant to inspect and audit the books of all departments of the city for a period extending back ten years. He said that he was satisfied that the books were accurately kept and that an investigation would do nothing more than establish the correctness of this belief; but there exists a feeling of unrest amongst citizens and tax-payers and there is a demand for an investigation such as he proposed. A majority of council appeared to concur in Mr. Ligon's opinion that an investigation would show everything to be correct, but there was no objection to the investigation except on the score of expense. It was finally agreed to limit the investigation to four years.

The retirement of Policeman A. H. Weeks on two-thirds pay was another matter of more than ordinary interest. Officer Weeks has been in the service of the city for 43 years and placing him on the retired list is no more than just recognition of faithful service.

The important parts of the clerk and treasurer's annual report are given herewith:

SALARY ACCOUNT.

W. B. Boyle, Mayor...	300.00
C. M. Hurst, Rec. C. & T...	1,700.00
W. L. Lee, Engineer...	1,100.00
C. W. Towles, Asst. Eng...	120.00
L. E. White, Supt. Sts...	1,020.00
E. L. Reardon, Hith Officer...	919.20
J. K. Bradford, Ch. Police...	1,170.00
J. M. Barwick, 1st Sgt...	840.00
P. Gallagher, 2nd Sgt...	840.00
W. G. Pierson 3rd Sgt...	825.00
A. H. Weeks, P'im'n...	715.19
A. D. Owens, P'im'n...	720.00
W. W. McKagen P'im'n...	169.98
J. H. Grady P'im'n...	150.00
J. A. Boykin, P'im'n...	720.00

H. G. McKagen P'im'n...	705.00
W. A. Tribble P'im'n...	254.00
T. P. Ward P'im'n...	534.67
G. J. Williams, P'im'n...	526.07
E. L. Hodge P'im'n...	501.25
A. China, Physician...	50.00
H. A. Hoyt, Clock-keeper...	50.00
Attorney Acct...	10.00
	13,940.36

RECEIPTS.

J. W. McKelver, Rent...	75.00
Dispensary Fund...	24,100.90
Fines & Penalties...	4,159.04
Board of Health...	65
First Nat. Bank Rent...	500.00
Real Estate Tax...	14,771.50
Personal Property Tax...	9,733.98
City Bonds Tax...	3,064.14
School Tax...	5,042.30
School Bonds Tax...	3,725.31
Street Com. Tax...	1,828.50
Sewer Acct...	712.41
Licenses...	6,987.25
Opera House Rent...	1,196.60
Store Rent...	420.00
Bills Payable...	49,000.00
Pauper Acct...	1.00
Sumter Ice, Lt. & P. Co...	13.17
Fire Department...	1.93
Special Police Acct...	308.68
Scavenger Acct...	3.10
Streets & Ditches...	376.05
Fire Insurance...	1,242.50
	\$127,184.01
Balance on hand...	2,673.87

EXPENDITURES.

1908 Balance...	260.17
Fines and Penalties...	474.09
Board of Health...	116.65
T. P. Association...	350.00
Sumter Light Infantry...	300.00
Public Printing...	290.50
Real Estate Tax...	143.29
Personal Property Tax...	111.42
City Bonds Tax...	1,463.74
School Tax...	5,042.30
School Bond Tax...	3,317.28
Postoffice Building...	220.00
Waterworks...	3,286.70
District & Interest...	3,347.57
2nd Regt. Band...	750.00
Street Com Tax...	6.00
Sewers...	53,831.42
Dog License Refunded...	24.00
Anti-Tuberculosis Asso...	200.00
Gen. Sumter Memorial...	36.00
Officers' Salaries...	13,940.36
License Tax...	9.70
Opera House...	1,861.95
Bills Payable...	12,000.00
Pauper Acct...	91.25
Sumter Ice, Lt. & P. Co...	4,074.35
Election Expenses...	36.40
Fire Department...	4,510.91
Special Police Acct...	1,504.29
Scavenger Acct...	4,638.27
Streets & Ditches...	6,791.79
Incidental Expense...	310.94
Fire Insurance...	1,168.80
Balance on hand...	2,673.87
	\$127,184.01

ASSETS.

Cash...	2,673.87
Taxes due & collectible...	1,200.00
Licenses due & collectible...	800.00
Unexpired Insurance...	450.00
Opera House land & Bldg...	40,000.00
Fire Dept. Lots & Bldg...	8,000.00
Other Land...	800.00
Police horse, bug & harness...	250.00
Fire horses, hose, etc...	2,350.00
10 mules, 10 carts, 2 wagons...	
roller, sprinkler, road machine, harness, tools and provender...	4,130.00
Fire Alarm system...	3,500.00
Pipe, tools, etc., left over from sewer work...	1,750.00
Waterworks & land...	133,000.00
School Property...	75,000.00
Sewer System...	92,000.00
	\$365,903.87

LIABILITIES.

City Bonds...	24,500
School Bonds...	51,000
Waterworks Bonds...	116,000
Interest accrued...	652
Due Banks...	37,000
Due Stevens Sons' Co. note for pipe...	6,649.33
Due on Fire Alarm...	742
Open Accts...	400
	236,943.33

Excess of Assets...

\$128,960.54

Note—Interest accrued on waterworks bonds and on \$30,000 school bonds is not included in above—as it is not payable out of city funds. The amount of interest now accrued on these bonds is \$1,623.75

The following extracts are made from the official minutes:

Mr. G. M. Sibert on behalf of the local lodge of Eagles, requested that the Osterling shows, now exhibiting under their auspices, be allowed until 16th instant for payment of licenses. The request was granted on condition that satisfactory guarantee be given, by responsible parties, approved by the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Barnett for the Finance Committee reported that the clerk and treasurer's report for March had been examined and found correct. He also submitted report for the year ending March 31st, and called attention to the growing expenses of the city, being nearly \$10,000 in excess of the preceding year. Mr. R. F. Haynsworth, in discussing the situation, said

that it was serious, in view of the probability of voting out the dispensary and thus reducing the income to actual necessities, leaving little or nothing for payment of debts and extraordinary expenses. He moved that the Chairmen of all committees meet together and agree on certain appropriations for the various departments and keep within the limits. The motion was adopted.

The Police Committee reported as follows:

Sumter, S. C., April 13, 1909.
To the Honorable, the City Council of Sumter:

Your Police and Sanitary Committees begs to submit the following report:

The matter of investigating the city's lighting proposition, the present contract expiring on Nov. 1, 1909, which you entrusted to this committee, we beg to advise has been given out most careful attention and consideration, and we herewith beg to hand you the papers entrusted to us, upon which you will find our recommendations in the matter inscribed thereon.

At a meeting of your committee held April 2nd, charges were preferred by the Chief of Police against officers Williams and Hodge for violating rules 2 and 14 of the "Police Rules and Regulation," on Saturday, March 27th, 1909, at which time they were suspended by the Chief of Police pending the action of your committee. After hearing all the evidence adduced in the case, the charges being clearly proven, your committee decided that the very least they could do in the matter would be to suspend the said officers each for thirty days, said suspension dating from the day they were suspended by the Chief of Police pending a hearing before your committee.

At the same meeting it was unanimously decided to request your honorable body, that in view of the fact of the seeming inability of Officer Weeks to perform the duties incident to the position, due no doubt to his length of years, and realizing his long and valuable service to our city, and as a reward thereof, we do hereby recommend that the said officer be retired as a "reserve policeman" without uniform, at two-thirds pay.

We, also, herewith beg to hand you the police report for the month of March and the report of lights not burning for the same month, both of which become, in detail, a part of this report.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. R. LIGON,

Chrmn. Police and Sanitary Coms.
The report was adopted, and it was ordered that Mr. Week's retirement begin on the 30th day of April.

Claim was made by Mr. Abe Ryttenberg for damage to scenery in the opera house, caused by a leak in the roof. The same was referred to the Opera House Committee.

Mr. Stubbs for the Railroad Committee reported that he had assurances that crossing, of which complaint had been made, would be put in good condition within a few days.

Mr. R. F. Haynsworth of the Building Committee had no report and stated that the matter was held in abeyance on account of financial conditions. Mr. Stubbs moved that the sewer bonds be sold to raise funds. Mr. Ligon offered a substitute that council borrow money to pay for the building and await results of the dispensary election in August before considering sale of the bonds. The substitute motion was adopted.

Request of Mr. J. W. Shaw for the privilege of erecting wooden closets in rear of the Monaghan block was referred to the Fire Department Committee, as was also the request of Lee Sing for permission to make repairs in his laundry on W. Liberty Street.

Offer of Mr. J. W. Marchant to furnish a Knabe piano for the opera house, taking the piano now in use, as part payment was received as information.

Mr. — Watson, proprietor of the Sumter Steam Laundry, was present to ascertain if he would be compelled to connect his laundry with the sewers. Health Officer Reardon explained that the Board of Health proposes to require all laundries to connect with sewers and will submit a rule to that effect for ratification by council. They were advised that Mr. Watson cannot be compelled to connect with sewers under the law as it now stands, because his place of business is outside of the district in which connections are compulsory. But if his premises are in bad or unsanitary condition the Board of Health can condemn it as a nuisance and force an abatement of the nuisance or discontinuance of the laundry.

Mr. Ligon reported that his committee had made comparison of prices paid by other cities for street lights, with the bid made by the Sumter, Ice, Light and Power Co., and found that the offer of the company is not excessive. There was some discussion of the question and the committee was requested to obtain further information. Mr. R. F. Haynsworth was added to the committee.

Mr. Ligon asserted that the watchman in charge of the railroad crossing

on Manning Avenue is negligent in performance of his duties and moved that the railroad company be requested to replace him with a more trustworthy man. The motion was adopted and referred to the Railroad Committee.

Mr. Finn submitted report of the Superintendent of Streets, expenditures for two weeks \$360.16.

Mr. Stubbs returned the inventory of tools, pipe etc., left from sewer work and stated that the articles were scattered so much that it would be difficult to check up the list. Mr. Finn was requested to aid Mr. Stubbs with the matter.

A letter was read from Fire Chief R. S. Hood calling attention to increase of fire risk occasioned by piling boxes and sweeping paper into back lots of stores, and referred to the Police Committee.

Council then adjourned.

THE TRIAL OF CALHOUN.

Men to Try San Francisco Magnate Accused of Corruption Selected—Alternate to be Secured.

San Francisco, April 13.—The jury that will try Patrick Calhoun, president of the United railroads, on a charge of offering a bribe, was completed today.

Otto S. Mackroth, a retired grocer, was sworn in as the twelfth juror. The attempt to get a jury has extended over a period of 91 days. Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Heney, immediately made application to the court for the selection of a 13th juror who shall be in readiness to take the place of any of the 12 who may be disqualified by illness or by some other reason. The request was earnestly opposed by counsel for the defendant, who declared it might consume another week to secure the additional juror.

After considerable argument, Judge Lawler made an order for the selection of one alternate juror, as requested by the prosecution.

DEMAND FOR LOANS.

People Anxious to Borrow Insurance Money.

Columbia, April 10.—Insurance Commissioner McMaster is receiving letters from persons throughout the State who wish to borrow money from insurance companies. In reply to these Mr. McMaster is sending out letters today as follows:

"Dear Sir: Answering your letter relative to insurance companies which will lend money in South Carolina:

"You will appreciate the fact that I cannot, either personally or as an official, have anything to do with individual transactions. This must be entirely between the borrower and the lender. All I may do is to strive to encourage companies to lend money in South Carolina. I would impress upon all applicants for loans this fact, that insurance funds are most sacred trust funds and cannot run speculative risks. They must be loaned with the clear understanding that the interest is to be paid regularly and without any expense of collection, and the principal is to be repaid without expenses when it is due. The collateral must not only be worth twice the amount of the money loaned on it, but must be of such marketable nature as would avoid all possible danger of ever having to be taken by the company making the loan. In other words the companies do not want property on any terms. They want their interest and their money back when it is due without trouble and without expense. Otherwise they cannot afford to loan these trust funds at so low a rate of interest. Loans on property that may have to be taken must be had from sources which will demand higher rates of interest."

"I have not yet been able to accomplish all I wish in this line, and later may be able to give you fuller information. Loans on both town and farm property may possibly be had from one of the following:

"A. W. McAllister, manager, Greensboro, N. C.

"Barron, Moore & Barron for the Life Insurance Co., of Virginia, Columbia, S. C.

"Security Life and Annuity Company, Greensboro, N. C.

"South Atlantic Life Insurance Company, Richmond, Va.

"American National Life Insurance Company, Lynchburg, Va.

"Southern States Life Insurance Company, Atlanta, Ga.

"C. H. Jones, general agent Fidelity Mutual, Columbia, S. C.

"The following named companies confine their loans entirely to city real estate, and I suggest your communicating with the following:

"Mr. Walter A. Halbert, appraiser for New York Life Insurance Company 171 LaSalle street, Chicago, Ill.

"Mr. Walter Stabler, comptroller Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York city. Very truly,

"F. H. McMaster,

"Insurance Commissioner.

Possibly the hold-up man takes to the highways in order to raise sufficient coin to enable his wife to take to the byways.

SPECIAL SALE

OF

French Briar and Mer-schaum Pipes.

We bought a large line of samples from a big New York house at a very low price and will sell pipes at or near cost.

Tobacco Free!

With each 25 cent Pipe we will give FREE a 5 cent package of tobacco; with 50 cent Pipe 10 cent package FREE; with \$1.00 Pipe 20 cent package FREE.

MANY STYLES TO SELECT FROM

Cigars.

Our stock of Fine Cigars is better than ever and we know there is no better selection anywhere. We have such well known brands as:

Marie Caroline, Nurica, Cuesta Ray,
Ed Principe de Gale, Palma Villa, Oxford, La Preferencia,
Roige's Special.
All 10 cent goods.

And in 5 cent goods we have the:
Norma Martinez Smoker, Rosemont, Cinco,
Grand Order, Buck, Roige,
And Many Others.

Will have in a few days a full assortment of the Fine Cortez Brand.

High Grade Smoking Tobacco.

Varsity Mixture, Blue Boat, Three States, Player's Navy Cut, Mozel, Imperial Cuba Cut, Capston, Lone Jack, Yale Mixture, Tortoise Shell, Garrick, Latakio, English Birds Eye, U Mixture, Tuxedo, and many other brands.

Turkish Cigarettes.

We have a full line of all the high priced cigarettes.

Fine Chewing Tobacco.

We have Chewing Tobacco from 30 cents to \$2 per pound, and would be glad to show you what we have.

WHEN you want anything in the Smoking Line it will pay you to come here. We will make you a very low price in quantities and guarantee to give satisfaction.

SIBERT'S DRUG STORE,

W. W. SIBERT.

Phone 283. 8 S. Main St.

MR. CAUSEY DIES OF WOUNDS.

Clerk of Court of Hampton Succumbs To Injuries Inflicted by "Peg Leg"

Hughes.

Augusta, Ga., April 12.—Mr. W. B. Causey, clerk of court of Hampton,

who was shot and fatally wounded Sunday afternoon at his home, died this afternoon in a local hospital after being given all of the medical attention known to science. His case was considered hopeless from the start. Mr. Causey was shot by a negro, "Peg Leg" Hughes, for no apparent cause. The negro was arrested

and hustled off to Columbia for safe-keeping. Mr. Causey was brought to Augusta by Drs. Folk and Harvey.

Some men outlive their usefulness and others never have any.

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